

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (currently amended)

A novelty hat in the shape of an automobile ~~a vehicle~~ comprising:
a separate substantially planar top member having a front portion, a rear portion, and a first side portion and a second side portion;
a separate substantially planar bottom member having an aperture;
a separate substantially planar body member; and
wherein said top member is connectable to said body member and said body member is connectable to said bottom member to form said novelty hat in the shape of said automobile ~~said vehicle~~.

Claim 2 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 1, wherein said members are connectable by fastener means.

Claim 3 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 1, wherein said members are connectable by fastener elements.

Claim 4 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 3, wherein each of said fastener elements comprises a male part and a female part.

Claim 5 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 4, wherein the male part includes a protrusion and a locking tip and the female part includes an opening for receiving the male part.

Claim 6 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 5, wherein the locking tip is substantially arrowhead shaped.

Claim 7 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 5, wherein the protrusion and the locking tip substantially form a "T" shape.

Claim 8 (currently amended) A novelty hat according to claim 1, wherein said automobile ~~vehicle~~ is a racecar.

Claim 9 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 1, further comprising a substantially planar spoiler member being connectable to said body member.

Claim 10 (currently amended) A novelty hat according to claim 1, wherein said automobile ~~vehicle~~ is a truck.

Claim 11 (cancelled) A novelty hat according to claim 1, wherein said vehicle is a boat.

Claim 12 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 1, wherein said members comprise a foam layer and at least one laminated surface.

Claim 13 (original) A novelty hat according to claim 12, wherein said at least one laminated surface is a cloth laminate.

Claim 14 (new) A novelty hat according to claim 2, wherein the front portion of said top member forms a front windshield of said automobile when the front portion is connected to said body member.

Claim 15 (new) A novelty hat according to claim 14, wherein the rear portion of said top member forms a rear window of said automobile when the rear portion is connected to said body member.

Claim 16 (new) A novelty hat according to claim 15, wherein the first side portion and the second side portion of said top member form side windows of said automobile when the first side portion and the second side portion are connected to said body member.

Claim 17 (new) A novelty hat according to claim 1, wherein said body member includes a hood portion, a trunk portion, and a first door side portion and a second door side portion and wherein the hood portion, the trunk portion and the first door side portion and the second door side portion connect to said bottom member to form a hood, a trunk, and two sides of said automobile.

Claim 18 (new) A method of forming a novelty hat, the method comprising the steps of:
 forming a substantially flat top panel having a substantially flat first printable surface;
 forming a substantially flat bottom panel having an aperture and a substantially flat second printable surface;
 forming a substantially flat body panel, the body member including a substantially flat third printable surface;

printing a predetermined pattern on the at least one of the first printable surface, the second printable surface, and the third printable surface;

packaging the top panel, the bottom panel, and the body panel such that the first printable surface, the second printable surface, and the third printable surface are substantially parallel;

wherein the top panel, the bottom panel, and the body panel are connectable to form a automobile shaped novelty hat.

Claim 19 (new) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of:

forming the top panel, the bottom panel, and the body panel from a foam having a substantially consistent thickness; and

applying a laminate surface to at least one of the first printable surface, the second printable, and the third printable surface prior to printing.

Claim 20 (new) The method according to claim 19, wherein the laminate surface is a cloth laminate.

Claim 21 (new) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of:

printing at least one of a windshield, a rear window, a side window, and a roof on the first printable surface.

Claim 22 (new) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of:

printing at least one of a wheel, a door, a hood, a trunk, a bumper on the third printable surface.

Claim 23 (new) A novelty hat in the shape of a boat comprising:

 a substantially planar top member having a front portion, a rear portion, and a first side portion and a second side portion;

 a substantially planar bottom member having an aperture;

 a substantially planar body member; and

 wherein said top member, said body member, and said bottom member are separate pieces such that said top member is connectable to said body member and said body member is connectable to said bottom member to form said novelty hat in the shape of said boat.